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8 April 1974

NOTE FOR: Mr. Stoertz

SUBJECT: Dr. Edward Teller's 29 March Memorandum

- 1. Attached is a memorandum from Dr. Edward Teller (written in his capacity as a member of the PFIAB) to Wheaton Byers on the general subject of the likelihood of Soviet resumption of atmospheric testing in violation of the Limited Test Ban Treaty. Also appended are the DCI's buckslip comments to me which I pass along to you.
- As you will see Dr. Teller is (to put it mildly) sympathetic to the concerns of the AEC as recently voiced by General Giller. To a lay reader, however, Dr. Teller's presentation of this argument puts it in a fairly favorable light and certainly in a way difficult to dismiss out of The key point he makes -- at least so far as the PFIAB is concerned -- is the one implicitly conveyed in his final paragraph, namely, the concern that the Intelligence Community may be so wedded to an overall political assessment in terms of which resumption of atmospheric testing by the USSR would make little sense that the Community could be unconsciously prone to ignore or discount contrary evidence arising within the limited technical I do not think this field of possible test preparations. charge is justified but -- like it or not -- we in the Community have to recognize that many of our senior customers believe that the Community has been demonstrably led astray on major past judgments, which proved erroneous, because of what these customers would uncharitably term a (The notable examples here are, of course, the introduction of missiles into Cuba, the Checkoslovak invasion and the Vietnamese Communist use of Sihanoukville.) What is even less palatable for us is the fact that, from out customers' angle of vision, these allegations about the past are not entirely unfounded, even though the whole story is much more complicated.

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3. In conjunction with would you please carry out the request levied by the DCI in his buckslip and draft the interim comment to Dr. Teller there mentioned.
George A. Carver, Jr. Deputy for National Intelligence Officers
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